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Inventor            Andrew J. Hull

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2  
3 NONRESONANT TECHNIQUE FOR ESTIMATION OF THE MECHANICAL  
4 PROPERTIES OF VISCOELASTIC MATERIALS

5  
6 STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT INTEREST

7 The invention described herein may be manufactured and used  
8 by or for the Government of the United States of America for  
9 governmental purposes without the payment of any royalties  
10 thereon or therefore.

11  
12 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

13 (1) Field of the Invention

14 The present invention relates to a method for measuring  
15 mechanical characteristics of viscoelastic materials. More  
16 particularly, this invention provides a method for measuring  
17 complex Young's modulus, complex shear modulus, and complex  
18 Poisson's ratio of a viscoelastic material formed as a rod.

19 (2) Description of the Prior Art

20 Measuring Young's modulus and shear modulus of materials is  
21 important because these parameters significantly contribute to  
22 the static and dynamic response of a structure. Resonant  
23 techniques have been used to identify and measure these moduli  
24 for many years. These resonant methods are based on comparing  
25 the measured eigenvalues of a structure to predicted eigenvalues

1 from a model of the same structure. The model of the structure  
2 must have well-defined (typically closed form) eigenvalues for  
3 this method to work. Additionally, resonant techniques only  
4 allow measurements at natural frequencies.

5         Comparison of analytical models to measured frequency  
6 response functions is another method used to estimate stiffness  
7 and loss parameters of a structure. When the analytical model  
8 agrees with one or more frequency response functions, the  
9 parameters used to calculate the analytical model are considered  
10 accurate. If the analytical model is formulated using a  
11 numerical method, a comparison of the model to the data can be  
12 difficult due to dispersion properties of the materials.

13         Methods also exist for measuring Young's modulus that  
14 require strain gages to be affixed to the rod. The mounting of  
15 strain gages normally requires that the gage be glued to the  
16 specimen, which locally stiffens the material. For soft  
17 viscoelastic materials, this can have an adverse impact on the  
18 estimate of the loss and stiffness. Another method for measuring  
19 stiffness and loss is by deforming the material and measuring the  
20 resistance to indentation. This method can physically damage the  
21 specimen if the deformation causes plastic deformation.

22         Prior art methods do not provide closed form, non-resonant  
23 techniques for measuring complex Young's modulus and complex  
24 shear modulus of a rod that contains a mass on the end when the  
25 end mass changes the dynamic response of the system. This system

1 typically arises when an end accelerometer is attached to a rod  
2 to measure the rod's response. Frequently, the mass is large  
3 enough that it significantly changes the response of the rod.

#### 4 5 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

6 It is a general purpose and object of the present invention  
7 to provide a method that measures the material properties of a  
8 viscoelastic material.

9 Yet another purpose of this invention is to provide a method  
10 for measuring the complex Young's modulus, complex shear modulus,  
11 and complex Poisson's ratio of a viscoelastic material.

12 Still another requirement is that the invention must provide  
13 a method for measuring the complex Young's modulus and complex  
14 shear modulus of a material at a frequency other than the  
15 resonant frequency of the system.

16 Accordingly, a method for estimating the real and imaginary  
17 Poisson's ratio of a specimen at an excitation frequency is  
18 provided. The specimen is first joined to a reciprocating test  
19 apparatus at one end with a mass positioned at the other end.  
20 The test apparatus reciprocates at the excitation frequency and  
21 accelerations are recorded at each end of the specimen. The  
22 Young's modulus is calculated by mathematical manipulation of the  
23 recorded accelerations. The specimen is then joined to a  
24 reciprocating rotational test apparatus at one end with an  
25 rotational inertia positioned at the other end. Accelerations

1 are recorded upon subjecting the specimen to rotational  
2 reciprocations at the excitation frequency. The shear modulus is  
3 calculated from mathematical manipulations of these  
4 accelerations. Poisson's ratio can be calculated from the  
5 Young's modulus and the shear modulus at the excitation  
6 frequency. All of the calculations may be performed giving both  
7 real and imaginary values.

#### 8 9 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

10 A more complete understanding of the invention and many of  
11 the attendant advantages thereto will be readily appreciated as  
12 the same becomes better understood by reference to the following  
13 detailed description when considered in conjunction with the  
14 accompanying drawings wherein:

15 FIG. 1 shows apparatus for measurement of Young's modulus  
16 according to the current invention;

17 FIG. 2 is a plot of the transfer functions  $T_1(\omega)$  and  $T_2(\omega)$   
18 versus frequency;

19 FIG. 3 is a plot of the function  $s$  versus frequency;

20 FIG. 4 is a plot of real and imaginary Young's modulus  
21 values versus frequency.

22 FIG. 5 shows the apparatus required for measurement of the  
23 shear modulus of the test specimen;

FIG. 6 is a plot of the transfer functions  $S_1(\omega)$  and  $S_2(\omega)$  versus frequency;

FIG. 7 is a plot of the function  $r$  versus frequency;

FIG. 8 is a plot of real and imaginary shear modulus values versus frequency; and

FIG. 9 is a plot of the estimated and actual values of Poisson's ratio versus frequency for a simulation with no noise.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

FIG. 1 shows apparatus for measurement of Young's modulus according to the current invention. One end of the test specimen rod 10 is mounted to a mechanical shaker 12 and the other end of the rod 10 is mounted to a mass 14. Shaker 12 has a shaker table 16 for mounting of instrumentation. Mass 14 is interchangeable with a second mass having a different value. An accelerometer 18 is attached to the shaker table 16 which is mechanically joined to shaker 12. A second accelerometer 20 is attached to mass 14. The measurement axis of both accelerometers 18 and 20 is in the  $x$  direction indicated by arrow 22. Shaker 12 inputs energy into rod 10 in the form of linear translation which initiates a compressional wave. The speed and loss of this wave can be measured using the two accelerometers 18 and 20, and Young's modulus can be calculated from the result. This measurement process is described below.

The system model represents rod 10 attached to shaker table 16 at  $x = 0$  and mass 14 at  $x = L$ . This mass 14 includes

accelerometer 20 to measure the acceleration levels at the end of rod 10. The linear second order wave equation modeling displacement in the rod 10 is

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial t^2} - \frac{E}{\rho} \frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad , \quad (1)$$

where  $u(x,t)$  is the particle displacement at location  $x$  in meters and time  $t$  in seconds,  $\rho$  is the density of the rod ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ ), and  $E$  is the frequency dependent, complex Young's modulus of elasticity ( $\text{N/m}^2$ ) which is unknown and is to be determined using this method. The boundary at  $x = 0$  is modeled as a fixed end with harmonic motion and is expressed as

$$u(0,t) = U_0 \exp(i\omega t) \quad , \quad 2$$

where  $\omega$  is the frequency of excitation ( $\text{rad/s}$ ),  $U_0$  is the amplitude (m), and  $i$  is the square root of  $-1$ . The boundary at  $x = L$  is formulated by matching the force at the end of the rod 10 to the force caused by mass 14 and is expressed as

$$AE \frac{\partial u(L,t)}{\partial x} = -m \frac{\partial^2 u(L,t)}{\partial t^2} \quad , \quad (3)$$

1 where  $A$  is the cross-sectional area ( $\text{m}^2$ ) of the rod 10 and  $m$  is  
2 the mass (kg) of mass 14 at the end of the rod 10.

3 Equation (1) can be rewritten in the spatial domain as  
4

$$5 \quad \frac{d^2 U(x, \omega)}{dx^2} + k_E^2 U(x, \omega) = 0 \quad , \quad (4)$$

6  
7 where  $U(x, \omega)$  is the temporal Fourier transform of the axial  
8 displacement and  $k_E$  is the complex compressional wavenumber  
9 (rad/m) and is equal to  
10

$$11 \quad k_E = \omega / \sqrt{E / \rho} \quad . \quad (5)$$

12  
13 Similarly, equation (2) becomes  
14

$$15 \quad U(0, \omega) = U_0 \quad , \quad (6)$$

16  
17 and equation (3) becomes  
18

$$19 \quad AE \frac{dU(L, \omega)}{dx} = m\omega^2 U(L, \omega) \quad . \quad (7)$$

20  
21 The solution to equation (4) is  
22

$$23 \quad U(x, \omega) = R(\omega) \cos(k_E x) + S(\omega) \sin(k_E x) \quad , \quad (8)$$



where  $R$  and  $S$  are wave propagation constants. Applying boundary conditions (6) and (7) to equation (8), and writing the solution as a transfer function in the form of a ratio between the displacement at both ends, produces

$$\frac{U(L, \omega)}{U_0} = \left[ \frac{1}{\cos(k_E L) - \mu(k_E L) \sin(k_E L)} \right] , \quad (9)$$

where  $\mu$  is the ratio of the mass of the mass 14 to the rod 10 mass and is equal to

$$\mu = \frac{m}{M} , \quad (10)$$

where  $M$  is the mass of the rod (kg) expressed as

$$M = \rho A L . \quad (11)$$

The transfer function in equation (9) represents data and is a function of unknown wavenumber  $k_E$ . The inversion of two of these transfer functions using different attached masses will allow the experimental data to be combined and yield a closed form solution of  $k_E$  and then  $E$  as a function of  $\omega$ . The theoretical form of these transfer functions is

$$\frac{U(L, \omega)}{U_0} = T_1(\omega) = \left[ \frac{1}{\cos(k_E L) - \mu_1(k_E L) \sin(k_E L)} \right] , \quad (12)$$

1 and

$$\frac{U(L, \omega)}{U_0} = T_2(\omega) = \left[ \frac{1}{\cos(k_E L) - \mu_2(k_E L) \sin(k_E L)} \right] , \quad (13)$$

4 where the subscript 1 denotes the first attached mass and the  
5 subscript 2 denotes the second attached mass. Writing equations  
6 (12) and (13) as a function of  $(k_E L) \sin(k_E L)$  and then equating them  
7 yields

$$\cos(k_E L) = \frac{T_2 \mu_2 - T_1 \mu_1}{T_1 T_2 (\mu_2 - \mu_1)} = \phi , \quad (14)$$

11 where  $\phi$  is a complex quantity. The inversion of equation (14)  
12 allows the complex wavenumber to be solved as a function of  $\phi$ .  
13 This solution to the real part of  $k_E$  is

$$\text{Re}(k_E) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2L} \text{Arccos}(s) + \frac{n\pi}{2L}, n \text{ even} \\ \frac{1}{2L} \text{Arccos}(-s) + \frac{n\pi}{2L}, n \text{ odd} \end{cases} , \quad (15)$$

17 where

$$s = [\text{Re}(\phi)]^2 + [\text{Im}(\phi)]^2 - \sqrt{\{[\text{Re}(\phi)]^2 + [\text{Im}(\phi)]^2\}^2 - \{2[\text{Re}(\phi)]^2 - 2[\text{Im}(\phi)]^2 - 1\}} , \quad (16)$$

n is a non-negative integer and the capital A denotes the principal value of the inverse cosine function. The value of n is determined from the function s, which is a cosine function with respect to frequency. At zero frequency, n is 0. Every time s cycles through  $\pi$  radians (180 degrees), n is increased by 1. When the solution to the real part of  $k_E$  is found, the solution to the imaginary part of  $k_E$  is then written as

$$\text{Im}(k_E) = \frac{1}{L} \log_e \left\{ \frac{\text{Re}(\phi)}{\cos[\text{Re}(k_E)L]} - \frac{\text{Im}(\phi)}{\sin[\text{Re}(k_E)L]} \right\} . \quad (17)$$

Once the real and imaginary parts of wavenumber  $k_E$  are known, the complex valued modulus of elasticity can be determined at each frequency with

$$E(\omega) = \text{Re}[E(\omega)] + i \text{Im}[E(\omega)] = \frac{\rho \omega^2}{[\text{Re}(k_E) + i \text{Im}(k_E)]^2} . \quad (18)$$

Equations (12) - (18) produce an estimate Young's modulus at every frequency in which a measurement is conducted.

Numerical simulations have been conducted to determine the effectiveness of this method. A baseline problem is defined with  $M = 4.0 \text{ kg}$ ,  $m_1 = 0.4 \text{ kg}$ ,  $m_2 = 1.2 \text{ kg}$ ,  $L = 0.254 \text{ m}$ ,  $\rho = 1200 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $\text{Re}(E) = 10^8 + 10^5 f \text{ N/m}^2$ , and  $\text{Im}(E) = 10^7 + 10^4 f \text{ N/m}^2$  where  $f$

1 is frequency in Hertz. Using these values, the mass ratios  $\mu_1$   
2 and  $\mu_2$  are computed to be 0.1 and 0.3, respectively. FIG. 2 is  
3 a plot of the transfer functions  $T_1(\omega)$  and  $T_2(\omega)$  versus frequency  
4 and corresponds to equations (12) and (13). The top plot is the  
5 magnitude and the bottom plot is the phase angle. The first  
6 transfer function was computed using an attached mass of 0.4 kg  
7 and is depicted with x's and the second transfer function was  
8 computed using an attached mass of 1.2 kg and is shown with o's.  
9 FIG. 3 is a plot of the function  $s$  versus frequency and  
10 corresponds to equation (16). Note that although this function  
11 is a cosine with respect to frequency, the period is increasing  
12 as frequency increases. Once the values of  $n$  are known, the  
13 modulus values of  $E$  can be determined using equations (15) -  
14 (18).

15 FIG. 4 is a plot of real and imaginary Young's modulus  
16 values versus frequency. The real (actual) values used to make  
17 the transfer functions are displayed as a solid line and the real  
18 (estimated) values are displayed as x's. The imaginary  
19 (estimated) values are displayed as o's. The estimated values  
20 agree at all frequency values with the actual values. This is  
21 expected because there is no noise in the data and all the  
22 parameters used to make the transfer functions are used to  
23 calculate the modulus values. No error is introduced when  
24 calculating the modulus from the transfer functions.

1        FIG. 5 shows the apparatus required for measurement of the  
2 shear modulus of the test specimen. A shaker 28 having a shaker  
3 table 30 is longitudinally connected to a stiff connecting rod 32  
4 that is connected to the edge of a large disc 34. Large disc 34  
5 is mounted using a middle mounted pivot member 36 so that disc 34  
6 is free to rotate about its center point. As shown pivot member  
7 36 suspends disc 34 from a fixed structure 38. A test specimen  
8 40 is rigidly attached to the middle of this disc 34 in a manner  
9 so that when disc 34 is pushed by connecting rod 32, it initiates  
10 torsional (or rotational) response in test specimen 40. The  
11 other end of test specimen 40 is attached to a second disc 42  
12 which acts as rotary inertia when the test is run. Later in this  
13 measurement technique, this second disc 42 will be changed to  
14 another second disc having a different rotary inertia value so  
15 that two sets of experimental measurements can be recorded. Two  
16 accelerometers are used. A first accelerometer 44 is attached to  
17 the edge of first disc 34, and a second accelerometer 46 is  
18 attached to the edge of second disc 42. The measurement axis of  
19 both accelerometers 44 and 46 is in the angular direction of the  
20 discs 34 and 42. Although both accelerometers measure  
21 translation, these values can be converted into angular rotation  
22 by multiplying the recorded value by the distance from the center  
23 of the disc to the accelerometer for each accelerometer.

24        In use, shaker 28 inputs energy via shaker table 30 into  
25 connecting rod 32 in the form of linear translation. This rod 32

1 inputs the energy into first disc 34 which makes the disc rotate  
2 and initiates a shear wave in the test specimen 40. The speed  
3 and loss of this wave can be calculated using measured data from  
4 the two accelerometers 44 and 46, and the shear modulus can be  
5 calculated from the result. This measurement (estimation)  
6 process is extremely similar to the measurement of Young's  
7 modulus and is described below.

8 The system model represents a cylindrical rod attached to a  
9 torsional shaker at  $x = 0$  and a disc with rotary inertia at  $x =$   
10  $L$ . This disc includes an accelerometer to measure the angular  
11 acceleration levels at the end of the disc. The linear second  
12 order wave equation modeling angular rotation in the specimen 40  
13 is

$$\frac{\partial^2 \theta(x,t)}{\partial t^2} - \frac{G}{\rho} \frac{\partial^2 \theta(x,t)}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad , \quad (19)$$

16  
17 where  $\theta(x,t)$  is the angular rotation at location  $x$  in meters and  
18 time  $t$  in seconds,  $\rho$  is the density ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ ) of the specimen, and  
19  $G$  is the frequency dependent, complex shear modulus of elasticity  
20 ( $\text{N/m}^2$ ) which is unknown and is to be determined using this  
21 method. The boundary at  $x = 0$  is modeled as a fixed end with  
22 harmonic angular motion and is expressed as

$$\theta(0,t) = \Theta_0 \exp(i\omega t) \quad , \quad (20)$$

where  $\omega$  is the frequency of excitation (rad/s),  $\Theta_0$  is the amplitude (rad), and  $i$  is the square root of -1. The boundary at  $x = L$  is formulated by matching the angular force (torque) at the end of the specimen to the rotary inertia of the second disc and is expressed as

$$GI_p \frac{\partial \theta(L,t)}{\partial x} = -J \frac{\partial^2 \theta(L,t)}{\partial t^2} , \quad (21)$$

where  $I_p$  is the polar moment of inertia of the cross-section of the specimen ( $\text{m}^4$ ) and  $J$  is the rotary inertia of the disc at the end of the bar ( $\text{kgm}^2$ ). For a cylindrical rod, the polar moment of inertia is

$$I_p = \frac{\pi}{2} a^4 . \quad (22)$$

where  $a$  is the radius of the specimen in meters (m). For a cylindrical disc, the rotary inertia is

$$J = \frac{1}{2} mr^2 . \quad (23)$$

where  $r$  is the radius of the disc in meters (m), and  $m$  is the mass of the disc (kg).

Equation (19) can be rewritten in the spatial domain as

$$\frac{d^2 \Theta(x, \omega)}{dx^2} + k_G^2 \Theta(x, \omega) = 0 \quad , \quad (24)$$

where  $\Theta(x, \omega)$  is the temporal Fourier transform of the axial displacement and  $k_G$  is the complex shear wavenumber (rad/m) and is equal to

$$k_G = \omega / \sqrt{G/\rho} \quad . \quad (25)$$

Similarly, equation (20) becomes

$$\Theta(0, \omega) = \Theta_0 \quad , \quad (26)$$

and equation (21) becomes

$$GI_\rho \frac{d\Theta(L, \omega)}{dx} = J\omega^2 \Theta(L, \omega) \quad . \quad (27)$$

The solution to equation (24) is

$$\Theta(x, \omega) = X(\omega) \cos(k_G x) + Z(\omega) \sin(k_G x) \quad , \quad (28)$$

where  $X$  and  $Z$  are wave propagation constants. Applying boundary conditions (26) and (27) to equation (28), and writing the



1 solution as a transfer function in the form of a ratio between  
2 the rotation at both ends, produces

$$\frac{\Theta(L, \omega)}{\Theta_0} = \left[ \frac{1}{\cos(k_G L) - \lambda(k_G L) \sin(k_G L)} \right] , \quad (29)$$

6 where  $\lambda$  is equal to

$$\lambda = \frac{2J}{a^2 M} , \quad (30)$$

10 where  $M$  is the mass of the specimen expressed as

$$M = \rho A L . \quad (31)$$

14 . The transfer function in equation (29) represents data and  
15 is a function of unknown wavenumber  $k_G$ . The inversion of two of  
16 these transfer functions using different attached rotary inertial  
17 masses will allow the experimental data to be combined and yield  
18 a closed form solution of  $k_G$  and then  $G$  as a function of  $\omega$ . The  
19 theoretical form of these transfer functions is

$$\frac{\Theta(L, \omega)}{\Theta_0} = S_1(\omega) = \left[ \frac{1}{\cos(k_G L) - \lambda_1(k_G L) \sin(k_G L)} \right] , \quad (32)$$

23 and

$$\frac{\Theta(L, \omega)}{\Theta_0} = S_2(\omega) = \left[ \frac{1}{\cos(k_G L) - \lambda_2(k_G L) \sin(k_G L)} \right] , \quad (33)$$

where the subscript 1 denotes the first attached rotary inertial mass and the subscript 2 denotes the second attached rotary inertial mass. Writing equations (32) and (33) as a function of  $(k_G L) \sin(k_G L)$  and then equating them yields

$$\cos(k_G L) = \frac{S_2 \lambda_2 - S_1 \lambda_1}{S_1 S_2 (\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)} = \varphi , \quad (34)$$

where  $\varphi$  is a complex quantity. The inversion of equation (34) allows the complex wavenumber to be solved as a function of  $\varphi$ . This solution to the real part of  $k_G$  is

$$\text{Re}(k_G) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2L} \text{Arccos}(r) + \frac{m\pi}{2L}, & m \text{ even} \\ \frac{1}{2L} \text{Arccos}(-r) + \frac{m\pi}{2L}, & m \text{ odd} \end{cases} , \quad (35)$$

where

$$r = [\text{Re}(\varphi)]^2 + [\text{Im}(\varphi)]^2 - \sqrt{\{[\text{Re}(\varphi)]^2 + [\text{Im}(\varphi)]^2\}^2 - \{2[\text{Re}(\varphi)]^2 - 2[\text{Im}(\varphi)]^2 - 1\}} , \quad (36)$$

$m$  is a non-negative integer and the capital A denotes the principal value of the inverse cosine function. The value of  $m$

1 is determined from the function  $r$ , which is a cosine function  
 2 with respect to frequency. At zero frequency,  $m$  is 0. Every  
 3 time  $s$  cycles through  $\pi$  radians (180 degrees),  $m$  is increased by  
 4 1. When the solution to the real part of  $k_G$  is found, the  
 5 solution to the imaginary part of  $k_G$  is then written as

$$\text{Im}(k_G) = \frac{1}{L} \log_e \left\{ \frac{\text{Re}(\phi)}{\cos[\text{Re}(k_G)L]} - \frac{\text{Im}(\phi)}{\sin[\text{Re}(k_G)L]} \right\} . \quad (37)$$

8  
 9 Once the real and imaginary parts of wavenumber  $k_G$  are known,  
 10 the complex valued modulus of elasticity can be determined at  
 11 each frequency with

$$G(\omega) = \text{Re}[G(\omega)] + i\text{Im}[G(\omega)] = \frac{\rho\omega^2}{[\text{Re}(k_G) + i\text{Im}(k_G)]^2} . \quad (38)$$

14  
 15 Equations (19) - (38) produce an estimate shear modulus at every  
 16 frequency in which a measurement is conducted.

17 Numerical simulations are conducted to determine the  
 18 effectiveness of this method. The baseline problem is also used  
 19 in this section. One additional parameter needed is the radius  
 20 of the rotary inertial masses which is chosen to be 0.1016 m.  
 21 Using the previous mass values the rotary inertia values of the  
 22 masses are  $J_1 = 0.0021 \text{ kgm}^2$  and  $J_2 = 0.0062 \text{ kgm}^2$ . Using these

1 values, the ratios  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are computed to be 0.247 and 0.741,  
2 respectively. The shear modulus values used for the analysis are  
3  $\text{Re}(G) = 3.58 \times 10^7 + 3.43 \times 10^4 f \text{ N/m}^2$ , and  $\text{Im}(E) = 2.55 \times 10^6 + 2.34 \times 10^3 f$   
4  $\text{N/m}^2$  where  $f$  is frequency in Hertz. FIG. 6 is a plot of the  
5 transfer functions  $S_1(\omega)$  and  $S_2(\omega)$  versus frequency and  
6 corresponds to equations (32) and (33). The top plot is the  
7 magnitude and the bottom plot is the phase angle. The first  
8 transfer function was computed using an attached mass of 0.4 kg  
9 and is depicted with x's and the second transfer function was  
10 computed using an attached mass of 1.2 kg and is shown with o's.  
11 FIG. 7 is a plot of the function  $r$  versus frequency and  
12 corresponds to equation (36). Note that although this function  
13 is a cosine with respect to frequency, the period is increasing  
14 as frequency increases. Values of  $m$  versus frequency can be  
15 determined from the function  $r$ . Once the values of  $m$  are known,  
16 the modulus values of  $G$  can be determined using equations (19) -  
17 (38). FIG. 8 is a plot of real and imaginary shear modulus  
18 values versus frequency. The real (actual) values used to make  
19 the transfer functions are displayed as a solid line and the real  
20 (estimated) values are displayed as x's. The imaginary (actual)  
21 values used to make the transfer functions are also displayed as  
22 a solid line and the imaginary (estimated) values are displayed  
23 as o's. The estimated values agree at all frequency values with  
24 the actual values. This is expected because there is no noise in

the data and all the parameters used to make the transfer functions are used to calculate the modulus values, i.e., no error is introduced when calculating the modulus from the transfer functions.

The estimation of Poisson's ratio is achieved by combining Young's modulus and shear modulus that were previously measured. This equation is

$$\nu = \left[ \frac{E}{2G} \right] - 1, \quad (39)$$

where  $\nu$  is Poisson's ratio and is dimensionless. The formulation in this method allows for Poisson's ratio to be a complex number, although typically the imaginary part of this number is very small or zero. FIG. 9 is a plot of the estimated and actual values of Poisson's ratio versus frequency for a simulation with no noise. The estimated values of the real part of Poisson's ratio are depicted with x's and the actual values of the real part of Poisson's ratio are shown as a solid line. The estimated values of the imaginary part of Poisson's ratio are depicted with o's and the actual values of the imaginary part of Poisson's ratio are shown as a solid line. The estimated values agree at all frequency values with the actual values. This is expected because there is no noise in the data and all the parameters used to make the transfer functions are used to calculate the moduli

1 values, i.e., no error is introduced when calculating the moduli  
2 from the transfer functions.

3 The major advantage of this new method is that it measures  
4 Young's and shear moduli at every frequency that a transfer  
5 function measurement is made. It does not depend on system  
6 resonances or curve fitting to transfer functions. The  
7 calculation from transfer function measurement to calculation of  
8 moduli is exact, i.e., no error is introduced during this  
9 process. Additionally, numerical simulations show that this  
10 method is extremely immune to noise introduced during the  
11 transfer function measurement. The new feature introduced in  
12 this invention is the method to measure Young's and shear moduli  
13 exactly by affixing two different masses having different values  
14 to a specimen in linear translation and then again in angular  
15 rotation. The transfer function data are collected on a spectrum  
16 analyzer and then passed to a computer where the above  
17 calculations are performed. Once Young's modulus and shear  
18 modulus are determined, Poisson's ratio can be calculated.

19 Obviously many modifications and variations of the present  
20 invention may become apparent in light of the above teachings.

21 In light of the above, it is therefore understood that

22 the invention may be practiced  
23 otherwise than as specifically described.

2  
3 NONRESONANT TECHNIQUE FOR ESTIMATION OF THE MECHANICAL  
4 PROPERTIES OF VISCOELASTIC MATERIALS

5  
6 ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

7 A method for estimating the real and imaginary Young's  
8 modulus, shear modulus and Poisson's ratio of a specimen at an  
9 excitation frequency. The specimen is first joined to a  
10 reciprocating test apparatus at one end with a mass positioned at  
11 the other end. The test apparatus reciprocates at the excitation  
12 frequency and accelerations are recorded at each end of the  
13 specimen. The Young's modulus is calculated from the recorded  
14 accelerations. The specimen is then joined to a reciprocating  
15 rotational test apparatus at one end with a rotational inertial  
16 mass positioned at the other end. Accelerations are recorded  
17 upon subjecting the specimen to rotational reciprocations at the  
18 excitation frequency. The shear modulus is calculated from these  
19 accelerations. Poisson's ration can be calculated from the  
20 Young's modulus and the shear modulus at the excitation  
21 frequency. All of the calculations may be performed giving both  
22 real and imaginary values.

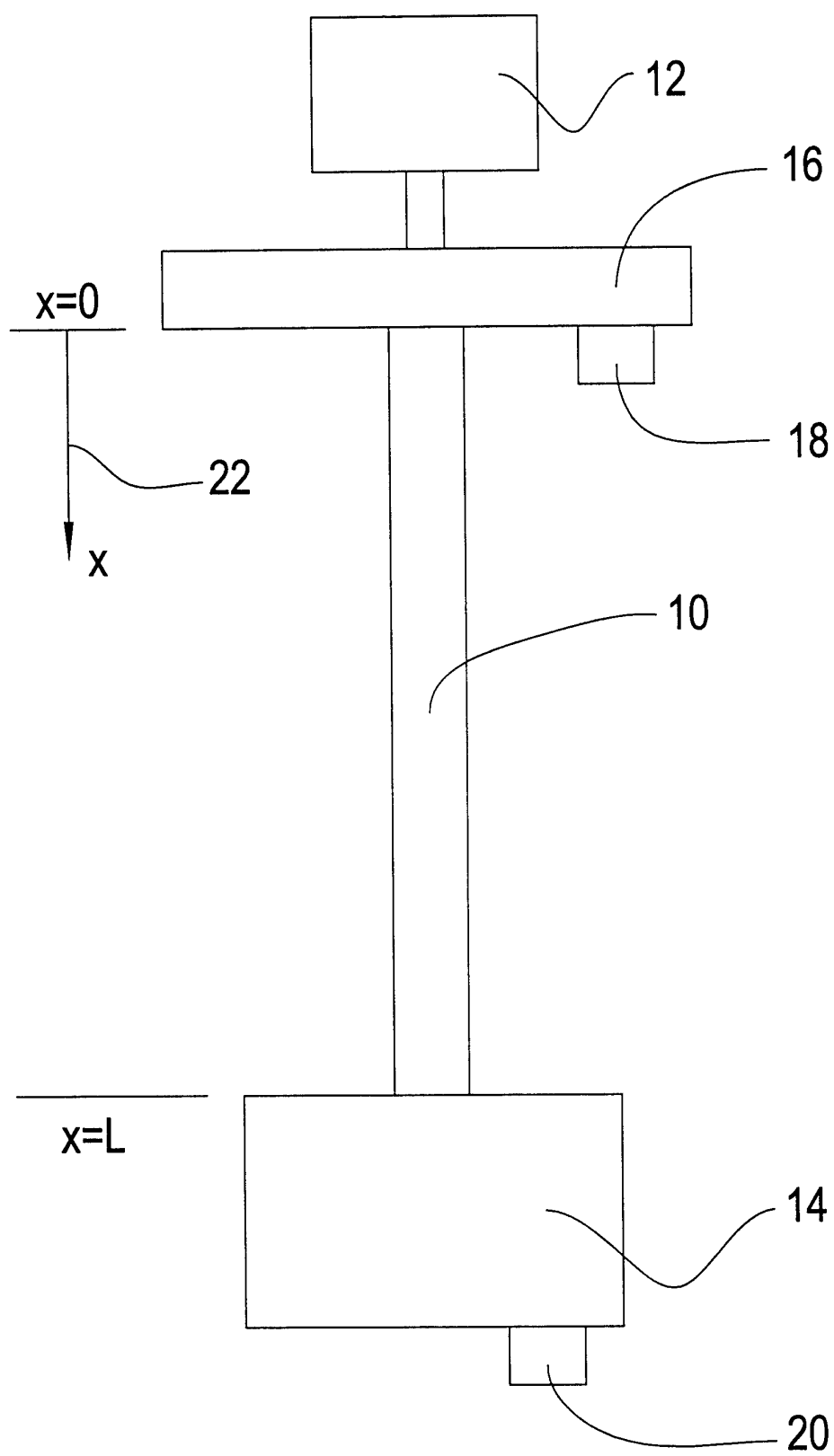


FIG. 1



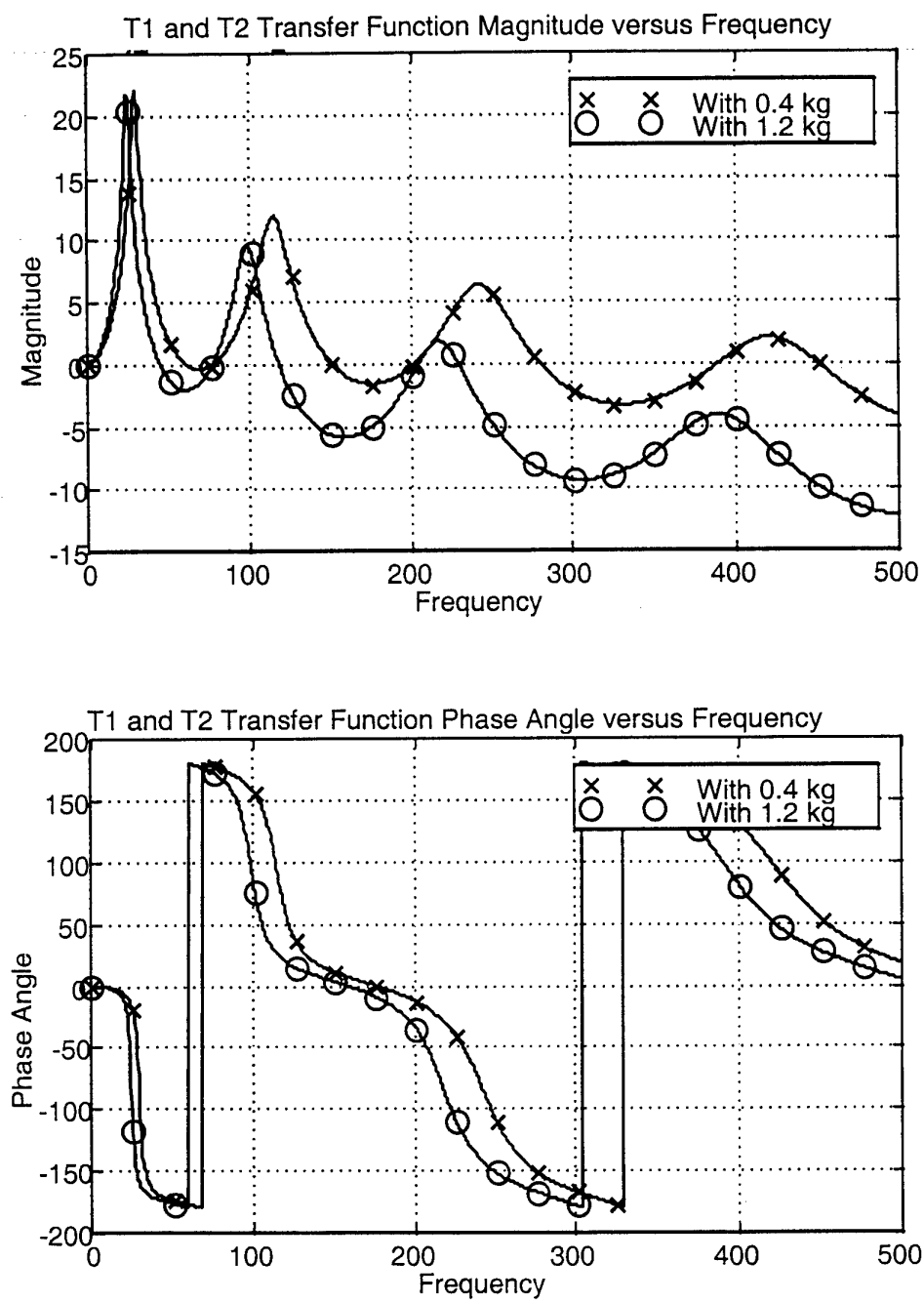


FIG. 2

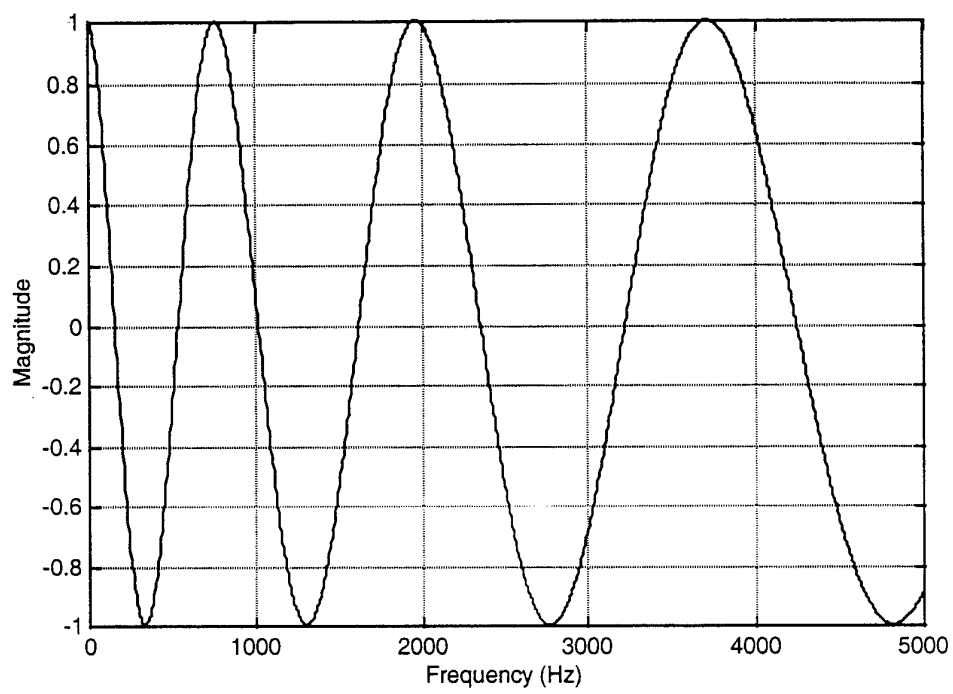


FIG. 3

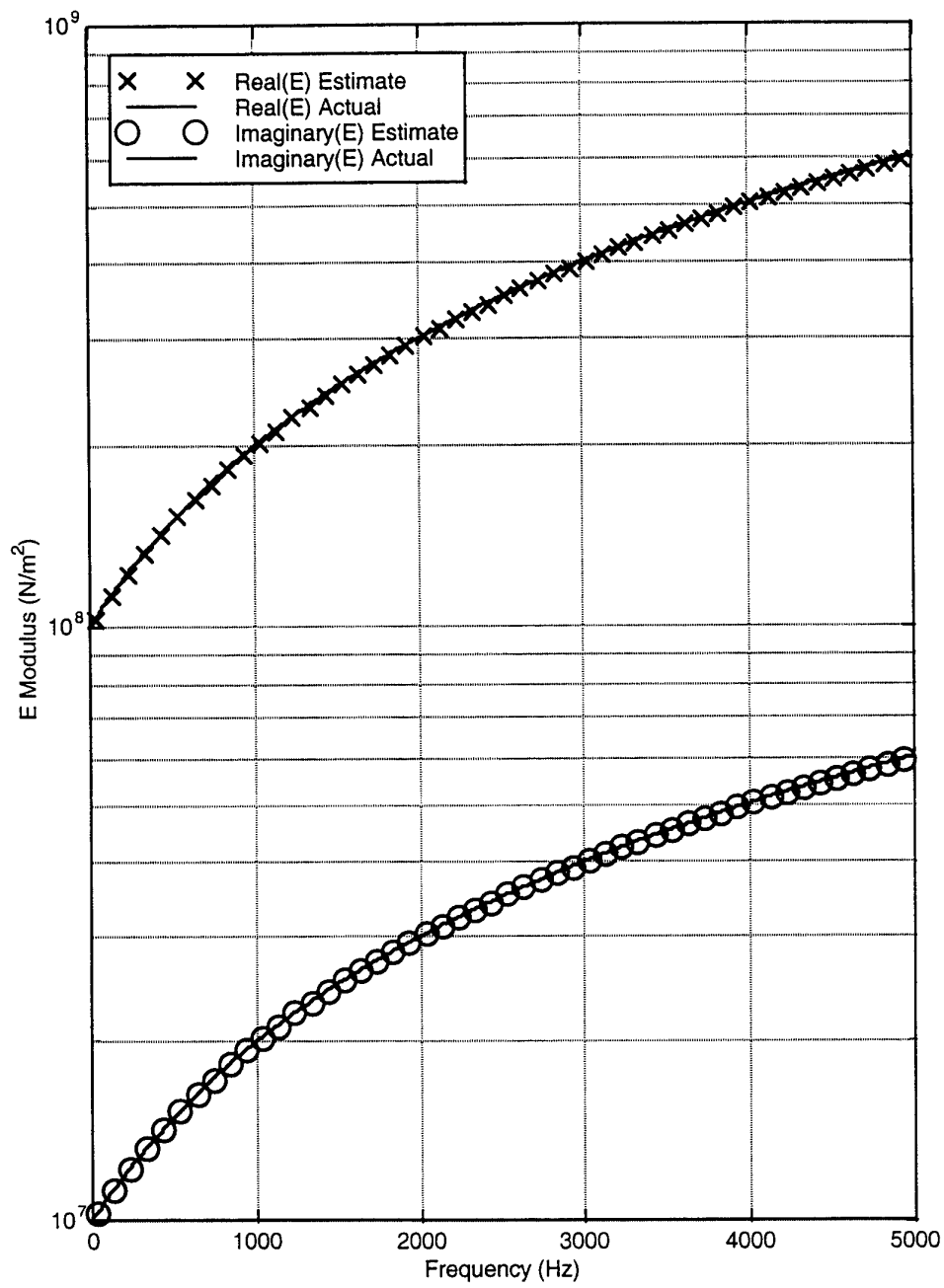


FIG. 4

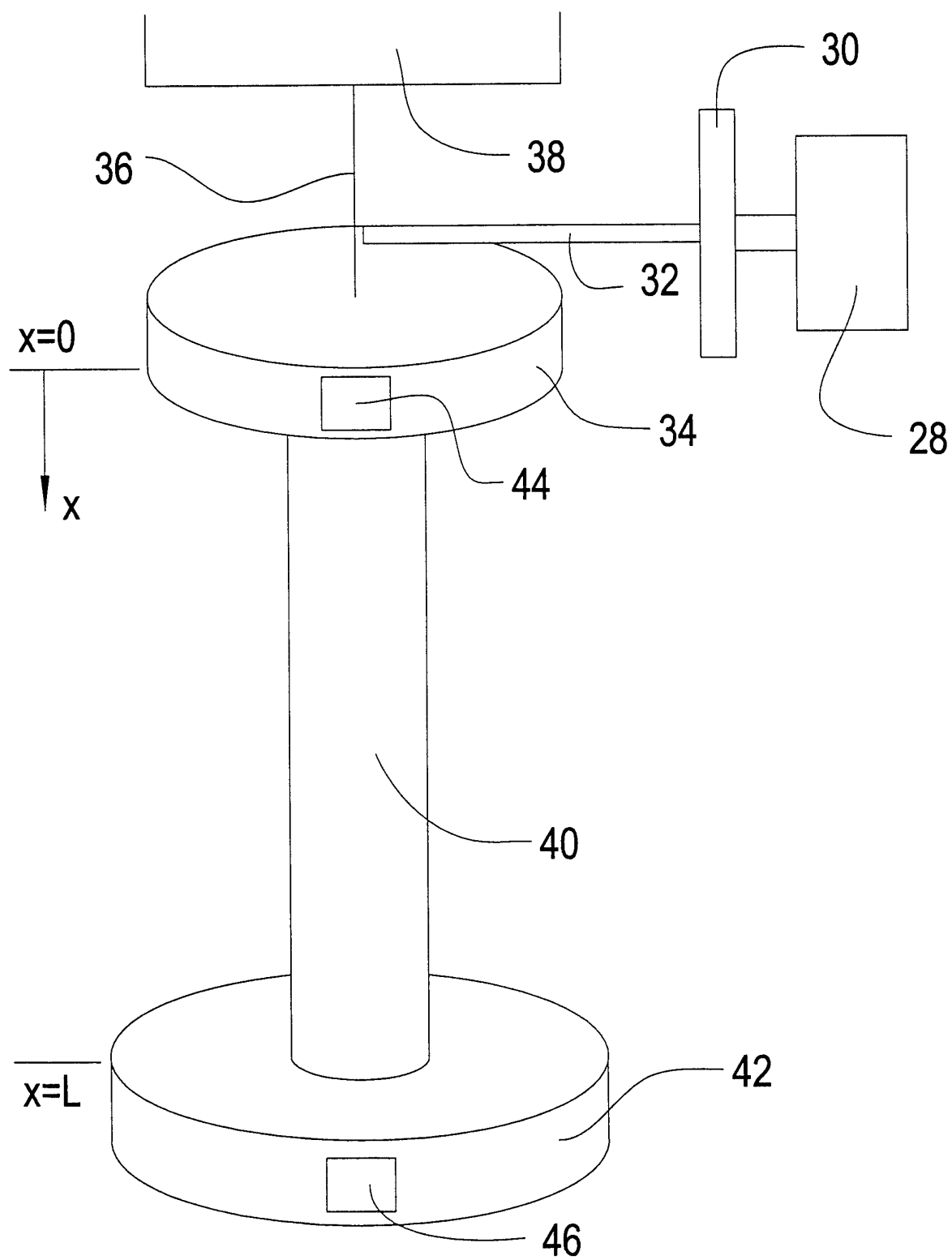


FIG. 5

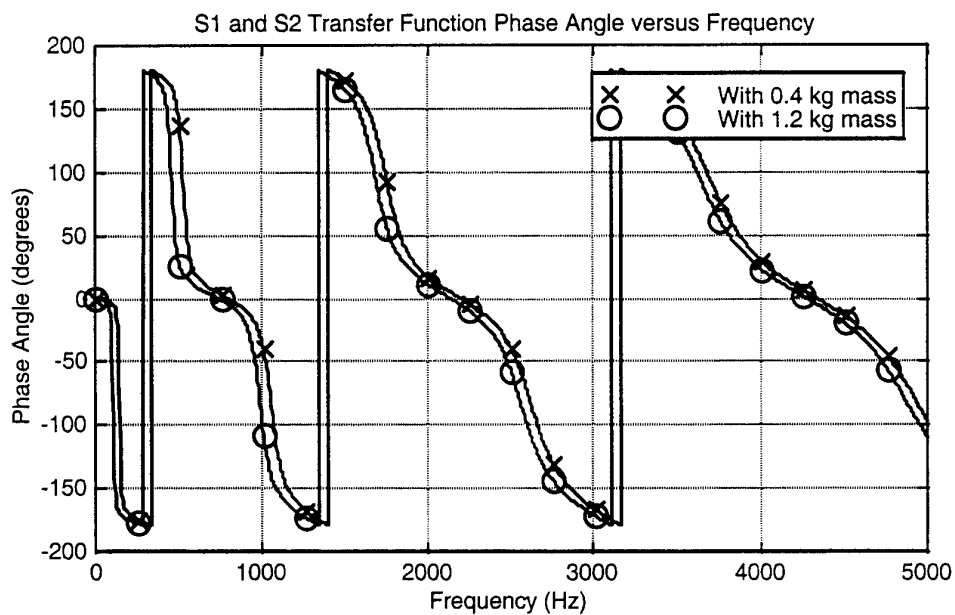
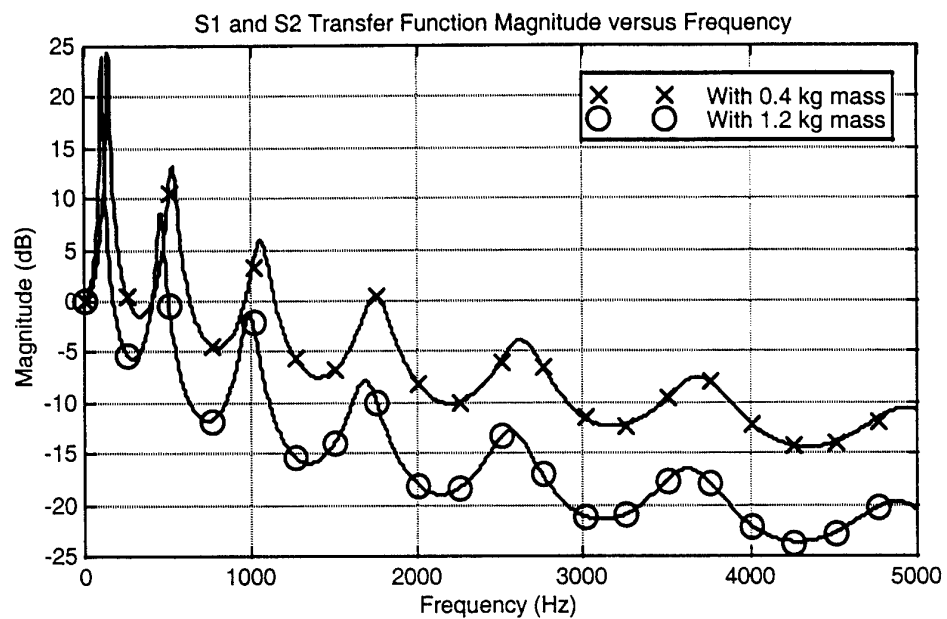


FIG. 6

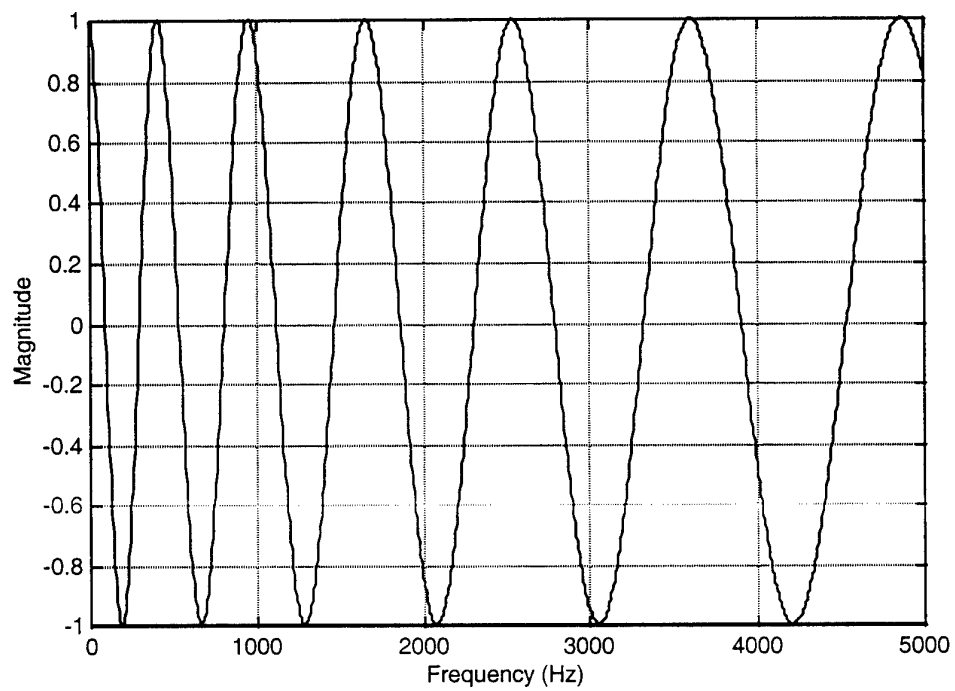


FIG. 7

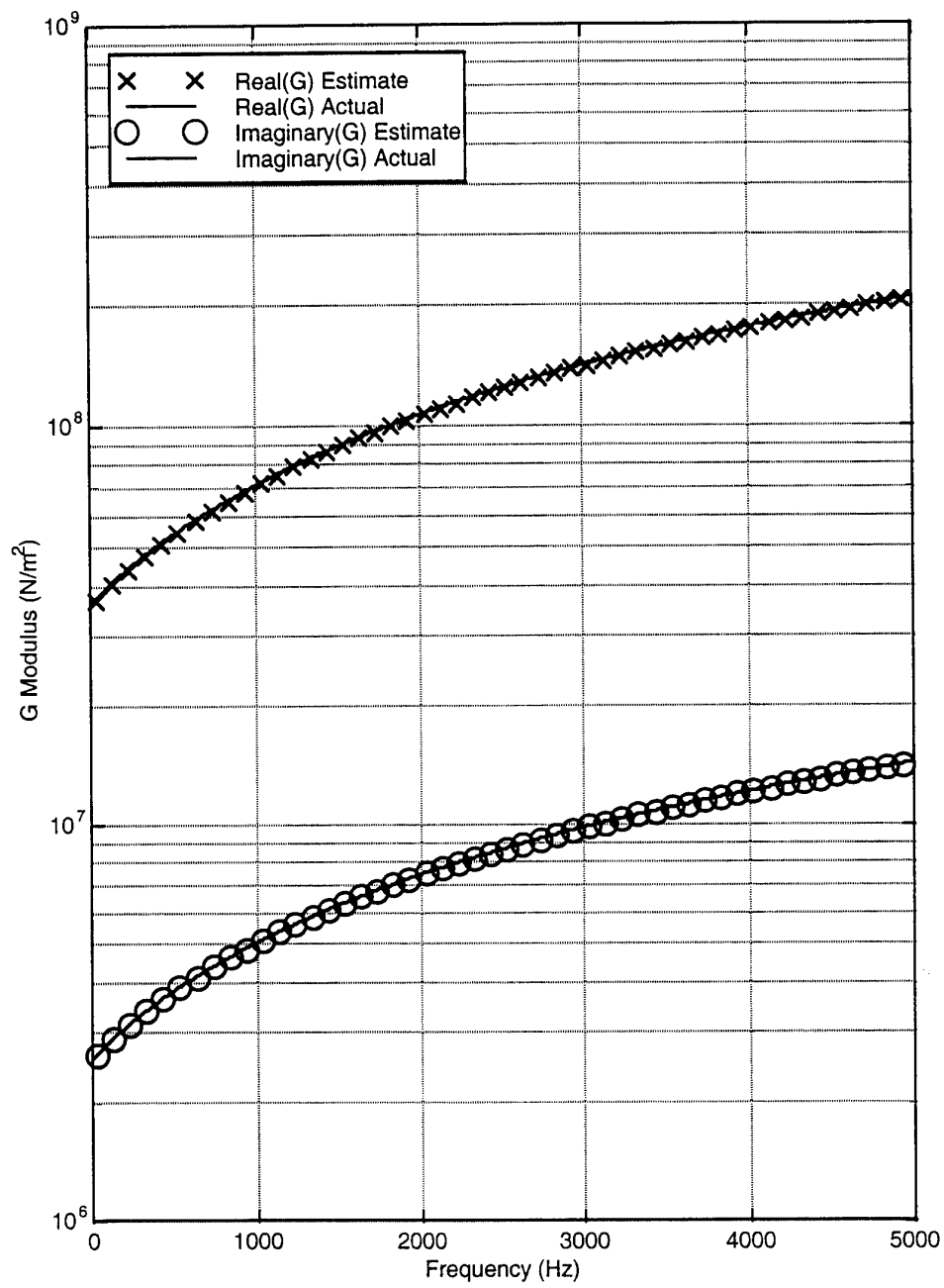


FIG. 8

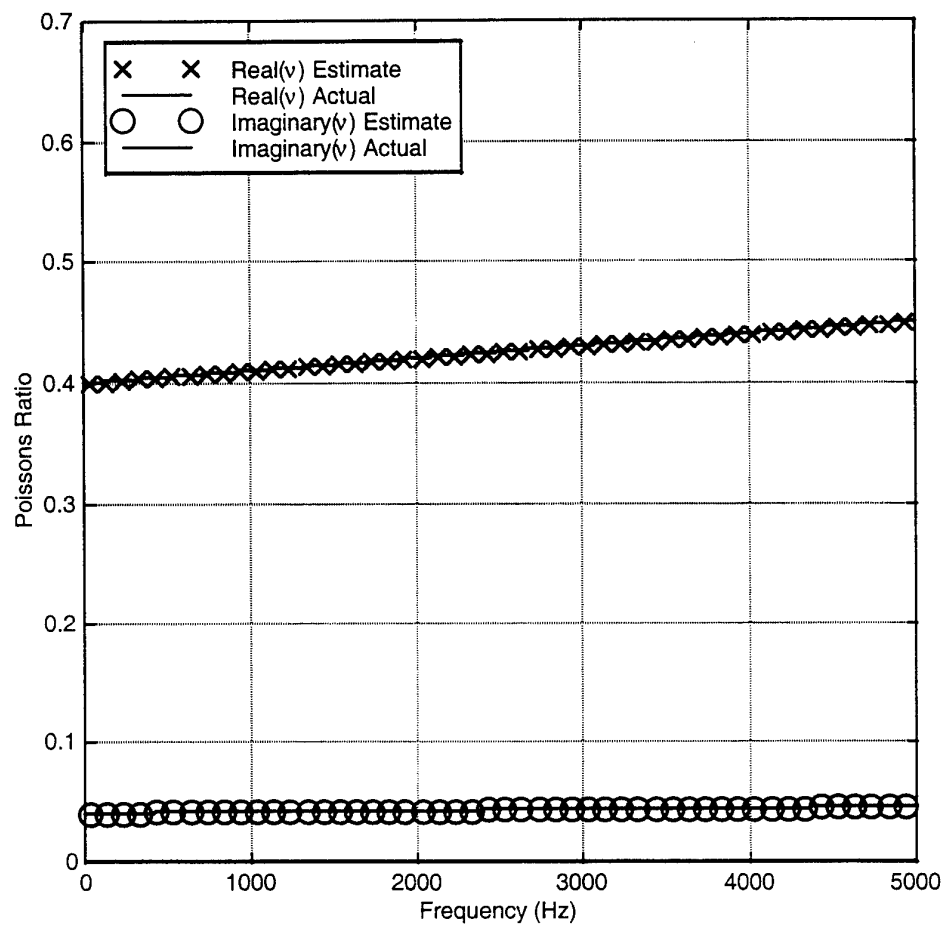


FIG. 9